

HOUSE RESOLUTION 131  
By Bone

A RESOLUTION to recognize Rodney Victor Ahles on the occasion of his retirement as City Judge for Lebanon, Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who, in their years of work, have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, Rodney Victor Ahles is one such estimable person who served with distinction for more than 34 years as City Judge of Lebanon, Tennessee; Judge Ahles entered a much deserved retirement on May 1, 2005; and

WHEREAS, a native of St. Cloud, Minnesota, Rod Ahles received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Arizona, a Bachelor of Law degree from Cumberland University, and the Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from Samford University; he entered the private practice of law in Lebanon in 1967 and, in conjunction with his practice, drafted legislation with the Tennessee Legislative Council Committee for five legislative sessions of the Tennessee General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ahles was appointed City Judge of Lebanon in 1970 and has also served as Juvenile Court Judge for the City of Lebanon and Juvenile Referee for Wilson County; he served on the Tennessee Board of Law Examiners from 1972-2003 and has served as Moderator of the Boards of the University Medical Center and of Humana Hospital McFarland in Lebanon; and

WHEREAS, Judge Ahles helped to organize and establish the charter of the Wilson County Museum and Fine Arts Building; he served as the first chairman of the Museum's first Board of Trustees, as well as its attorney; and

WHEREAS, Judge Ahles is an active and important part of his community, the greater Nashville area, and his profession, participating in numerous worthy organizations; he has held

leadership positions in both the Nashville and Lebanon Lions clubs, is a life member of the Shriners, and has served as President of the Lebanon Civitan Club, the Wilson County Historical Commission and the Lebanon Rotary Club; the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International awarded Judge Ahles the Paul Harris Fellow recognition for his efforts to promote world peace; and

WHEREAS, Judge Ahles was elected to the Board of Trust of Cumberland University in 1981 and has served on the Board's Executive Committee as Secretary-Treasurer for 20 years; Cumberland University has honored him for his superior qualities in leadership with the coveted Phoenix Award, and, in May of 2003, he received the prestigious Algernon Sydney Sullivan Medallion Award for excellence of character and service to humanity; and

WHEREAS, a devout member of First Presbyterian Church of Lebanon, Judge Ahles has served as Elder and Deacon since 1970 and has been active in other leadership positions; he taught a fifth and sixth grade Sunday school class for thirty years. As its moderator, he led the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Presbyterian Synods of the South and of Middle Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Judge Ahles exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; he enjoys the love and support of his wife Georgeann; they will continue to reside in Lebanon as Judge Ahles continues to pursue his private law practice; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career as a seeker of justice and equity through the law, Judge Ahles has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of members of the bench and bar alike, and the parties appearing before his court; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we extend to Judge Rodney Victor Ahles our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.